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LAMBDA

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LU administration confident of reaching deal with faculty

BY NEIL ZACHARJEWICZ
 EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Classes may have gotten under way this week, but the date that seems to be hanging over the heads of the administration, faculty and students at Laurentian University at this point is September 15th.

That is the date that the Laurentian University Faculty Association (LUFA) will be in a legal strike position, after the faculty voted 97.2 percent in favour of a strike if a negotiated agreement is not reached with the administration. Negotiations have been ongoing since April of 2005, with what LUFA termed "the submission of comprehensive proposals by LUFA to the Laurentian University administration team negotiating on behalf of the Laurentian University Board of Governors." LUFA has suggested that the Laurentian University administration team declined to enter into substantive negotiations throughout the summer, and only submitted their offer to LUFA in mid-August. LUFA has stated that despite their earlier optimism and hard work, there has been a complete lack of progress on all of the key issues.

"LUFA are seeking a catch-up to bring the salary up to the average of the Ontario university system," LUFA stated in a release. "The administration's offer was considered totally unacceptable to the LUFA negotiators who argue that to accept it would make the gap between the LU average faculty salary and the Ontario average even wider. LU faculty continues to receive amongst the lowest faculty remuneration in Ontario and is now \$8,600 behind the Ontario average. LUFA is also seeking improvements to pensions, fringe benefits, retiree benefits, workload and the working environment."

LUFA has sought conciliation, which was conducted on August 23rd, but this was deemed unsuccessful and a 'No Board' report was issued on August 29th, leading to the September 1st general information meeting at which the mandate to strike was put forward by the members.

"At a time when LU revenues are at record levels with greatly increased student registrations and grants, the administration's refusal to even attempt to move faculty remuneration and benefits towards the norm in Ontario is unconscionable," stated Jim Ketchen, President of LUFA. "However, we are working hard to avoid job action."

"Both parties want to come to an agreement," said Michel Bechard, spokesperson for the administration. "We are confident a contract can and will be reached."

One good sign, Bechard pointed out, was that both parties have

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Laurentian adopts new logo

BY NEIL ZACHARJEWICZ
 EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Anyone who has received any official documents from Laurentian may have noticed a new logo peering at them from the top of the page.

Unveiled internally back in May, the new logo has been popping up everywhere on campus, and everyone who has seen it seems to have an opinion about it. Some like it, some hate it, and others could really care less. But that was to be expected, suggested Michel Bechard, of Laurentian's Public Affairs department, and he noted that many people had similar opinions about its predecessor.

Anyone familiar with the project realizes that this logo is not something that was developed out of nowhere. In fact, the project is just one part of a much larger exercise the university has been undertaking for some time.

"We were doing a branding exercise that started in the winter

of 2004," Bechard explained. As a part of that exercise, a new brand position was developed for the university, and as part of the exercise the university viewed the design of a new logo as an opportunity to give Laurentian a new appearance. He pointed out that there were some concerns with the logo that many students are more familiar with.

"It does not have a lot of brand equity," Bechard suggested. "This is about our marketing initiative. It is about the image we project to all of our stakeholders."

The adoption of a new logo was all about presenting a consistent message and image. Still, much effort and consultation went into the process of designing the new logo.

"It was important that the process be as open and consultative as possible, but it is never enough; and we realize that," Bechard said. Despite this, the

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LU to get Yellowcarded



Contributed

Lead singer Ryan Key and his Yellowcard bandmates are set to rock the Great Hall tomorrow night.

Punk quintet headline SGA/AGE Frosh Concert

What more can possibly need to be said about an American band that dubbed their tour 'We Wish We Were Canadians?'

That is exactly what Yellowcard did, and these wishful Canadians will be rocking Laurentian University's Great Hall tomorrow night, Friday, September 9th, as part of the Students' General Association / L'Association generale des etudiant(es) (SGA/AGE) Frosh Week activities which have been taking place all week.

"We had a few options as to the acts we could bring in for Frosh Week, but when we shared our options with students, Yellowcard was the name that generated the most excitement. These guys rock, and by all accounts they put on a great show. This is going to be one great concert," said Shanna Denis, Vice-President Services for the SGA/AGE.

For those of you who can't quite seem to place the band, Yellowcard is probably most renowned

for their hit single, Ocean Avenue. Not so concerned about genre-classification and style, this punk quintet places more emphasis on making a personal connection with their fans, something they feel they have achieved in each of the hundreds of shows they've played at all-ages punk nights, rock dives, school events, suburban VFW halls, living rooms, back yards and any of the other places they play over 200 nights a year. It might seem to be an unusual approach for five young guys who don't take themselves too seriously, but then Yellowcard - Ryan Key, 23 (vocals, guitars); Sean Mackin, 24 (violin, vocals); Ben Harper, 22 (guitar); Longineu Parsons, 23 (drums); and Alex Lewis, 25 - aren't your typical young punk band, starting with the classically-trained violinist in their ranks.

But things seem to have turned out pretty well for them with their most successful commercial

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Laurentian University
Université Laurentienne

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WRITE TO US

Include your full name and student number. Please keep articles to a maximum of 700 words. Lambda reserves the right to edit for content considered sexist, racist, homophobic, heterosexist, for length, or legal purposes. Letters of a harassing or slanderous nature will be dealt with by the proper authorities.

E-MAIL SUBMISSIONS

Please e-mail submissions to lambda@laurentian.ca. Ensure the file is saved as TEXT or Word, as other files may not be transferable to Mac format. To be considered for print, all submissions must have your name and student number.

EDITOR'S CORNER

The fun is just beginning...

Okay, I'm sure some of you are lamenting the fact that it's back-to-school time again. Back to the books, term papers, theses, and exams. Back to three-hour classes that sap the life right outta ya. And yes, I agree, that sucks. But call me the eternal optimist, because you can count me among the number that are really looking forward to this next school year. Sure, it's my last, but that really has nothing to do with it.

I'll be honest: hanging around an empty university all summer has been somewhat of a drag. These halls, which are more commonly bursting with students during the Fall and Winter semesters, practically collect tumbleweeds during the summer. You could throw a javelin down the halls with no risk of hitting anyone in early July. You could actually use the Bowling Alley for its namesake and no one would know.

But over the last few weeks, as people have been slowly arriving again, there is this palpable feeling of excitement. This is



going to be one good year.

It started with students trickling in to register. Then even more making a beeline for the bookstore in hopes of scooping up their textbooks before the mad rush the first week of classes. Then, there was the arrival of students moving into the residences last weekend, who sparked the idea for this editorial. Yup, all week long as I plugged away as a volunteer for many of the Frosh

Week activities, slavishly working late into the night and wondering if it was all going to be worthwhile, I could hear the new students on campus chanting their chorus of cheers in the cool night air. There was life on campus, and we were going to have copious amounts of fun on Frosh Week. It was invigorating.

Then there were my classmates, who are slowly rolling back to the city after spending the summer in all manner of jobs across this continent. Heck, even some of my classmates who didn't leave the city were turning up, and we were all apologizing that our best intentions to get together at some point over the summer had somehow failed to come to pass. But it wasn't stopping us now, and I've had a great opportunity to share a drink or two with some good friends, compare classes for the coming year, and share crazy stories about the crazy things we'd done this summer, and the even crazier things we plan to do in the coming year.

University life isn't just about the books... though admit-

tedly you do have to remember that those papers need to get written or else you've just wasted a few thousand greenbacks. University is also about camaraderie. It's about friendship. It's about making lasting connections with that guy who tosses paper airplanes around in your Communications class, or that girl who shared her study notes with you after you had both failed to read the required text for the Envision course for the exam you are about to take in 10 minutes.

And to me, the powerful bonds I have made with these people are the things I'm going to remember most when they hand me my degree at the end of the year (I hope...), and 10 years from now when I'm reminiscing about my days at university.

So suck it all in while you can, because the end of the year will arrive before you even know it.

- Neil Zacharjewicz
Editor-In Chief
lambda@laurentian.ca

Important notice about the Pub Downunder

This September, the Pub Downunder will be closed for a 3 week period due to a fine levied by the Alcohol and Gaming Commission (AGCO). The Pub Downunder is owned and operated by the Students' General Association (SGA/AGE), and we take this fine very seriously, but we did want to alleviate the rumour mongering that is sure to occur when our students hear of the pending closure. We were given a 21 day suspension for infractions ranging from over service of a patron to improper advertising of alco-

holic beverages. The Pub has always endeavoured to protect our patrons from any unsafe practices and we regret that our actions have led to this suspension. However, we do hope the students understand why the Pub has strict house policies for operations. We have always tried to provide our students with a safe environment, but one in which students can have some much needed fun. Obviously to do so is a balancing act-we do not want to be strict to the point that the Pub is not a relaxing environment, but at the same time

we must adhere to the policies set out by the AGCO. We hope that we can count on your understanding throughout the suspension, both Luke Norton (sgapresident@laurentian.ca), our SGA/AGE president and I are willing to discuss this issue with you at any time.

Tannys Laughren
tlaughren@laurentian.ca
SGA/AGE
Executive Director

Welcome to 2005-2006 here at LU!

Well, summer is ending and once again we get to trade in our swimming trunks for textbooks and head back to classes. The good news is that this year is shaping up to be a very memorable one. There is a lot going on around campus: the building of the new residence is continuing, the design process is under way for the new education building and the student-funded recreational centre, and the new medical school is celebrating its inaugural year.

Hopefully by now you're well on your way to settling into a rhythm after the madness of Frosh Week, but there are still a few things you need to know. First of all, you may have heard mention of a possible prof strike. At a special meeting on the 1st of September, the members of the Laurentian University Faculty Association (LUFA) voted in favour of a strike mandate. Now, if there is a strike, it won't happen until Thursday, September



15, so there is still time to work things out. The faculty and the administration will be meeting with a mediator before then, and hopefully things can be resolved before a strike is necessary. In the event of a strike, the SGA/AGE will work very hard to ensure that both sides stay at the table and that negotiations are completed

in the quickest time possible. We will not allow your year to be wasted, so rest assured that we will do what we can to ensure that you're not going to be put out by an issue between faculty and administration.

That being said, this year has the potential to be one of the best years Laurentian's ever had. We've got new clubs being founded, environmental initiatives such as the greening of CKLU being explored, and lots of great people coming, and returning to, the campus. So I encourage you to get to know your fellow students, come out to some events, and have some fun. Don't forget to check out Club Days from 10am till 4pm on the 14th and 15th. Clubs are a great way to get exposed to new things, meet with your fellow students, and to get out and have a great time.

Remember too, that the SGA/AGE is here to serve you. We provide you with a ton of

services so stop by the office in the Student Centre and take advantage of them. Whatever problems you are facing, you can come to us for help. Laurentian provides its students with a wide variety of support services, and we can help put you in touch with the one you need, be it help with writing papers or counseling services. For more information on what's happening with the SGA/AGE, the Senate, the Board of Governors, or any other committee, come into the office and check out our information stand, which includes minutes from all Board and Executive meetings, as well as Senate and Board of Governors packages.

The SGA/AGE is your association. It is funded by your money, and you're paying us to represent you. So stay aware of what's going on, and get involved with your education. It's your money, and it's up to you to ensure that it's being spent the way you think is best.

SPACE FOR RANT

Something eating away at the back of your mind that you just absolutely feel you need to share with others? Well, that's what this space is for. In the proud Lambda tradition, Space For Rant is back for another year. We invite readers of our publication the opportunity to speak their mind on the issues that affect us all.

Didn't like something you read in Lambda? Fire away! Frustrated with one of the many issues going on around campus? That's why we're here. Space For Rant is your space... the reader's space... to have your say and share your message with a broader audience.

There is only one catch: Lambda reserves the right to edit your submissions in keeping with libel law, so please try to avoid slanderous or maliciously attacking anyone within these pages. Follow that one simple rule, and the sky is the limit.

So how exactly do you submit a piece for Space For Rant... it's easy! Email us at lambda@laurentian.ca, call us at (705) 673-6548, or drop us a letter in the mail at SCE 301 Student Centre, Laurentian University, Sudbury, ON P3E 2C6.

Remember: Lambda is the voice of the students. Make sure your voice is heard.

CAMPUS NEWS

New students have first taste of LU at Send-Off parties



THE BARRIE SEND-OFF PARTY



THE MARKHAM SEND-OFF PARTY



THE OTTAWA SEND-OFF PARTY



THE SUDBURY SEND-OFF PARTY



THE TIMMINS SEND-OFF PARTY

BY NEIL ZACHARJEWICZ
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Laurentian alumni are doing their part to ensure new students feel welcome at LU by throwing them a party before they ever even reach the campus.

The Laurentian University Alumni Association has helped to arrange "send-off parties" in several Ontario cities to provide incoming students with an opportunity to meet students returning Laurentian this year, as well as introduce them to students who have attended the university in the past.

"This is the third year for the send-off parties, but not for all of the locations," said Julie Ceming, alumni officer with the Laurentian University Alumni Association. "New locations are being added every year."

Laurentian President Judith Woodsworth, who was seeking a way to make students feel welcome at the university, initiated the idea for the send-off parties and thus the Laurentian University Alumni Association was called to play a part in the event. Ceming noted that other universities offer similar events for their students as well.

Dr. Woodsworth has thrown her support behind the initiative, making an appearance at each of the send-off parties held this year. The first was held in Barrie on August 9th, and hosted by Mike Grube, BA 1996, and Erin Grube, BPHE 1997. This was followed by a second send-off party in Markham on August 10th, hosted by the Toronto Alumni Chapter. The Ottawa Alumni Chapter hosted their send-off party on Thursday, August 11th, and on August 16th, Louis Clausi, BA 1985, and Louise Clausi, BA 1986, hosted the Timmins send-off party. The final send-off party, hosted by the Sudbury Alumni Chapter, was held on Saturday, August 27th.

Students who attended the send-off parties are also being encouraged to attend the wrap-up event, scheduled for September 25th, at which time the major prizes will be drawn. Any student who took part in a send-off party is eligible to win a prize, which includes one of two tuition fee credits carrying a value of \$500 for new students, one tuition fee credit valued at \$500 for a returning student, \$100 gift cards from Aramark Food Services on campus, or \$250 gift certificates for the Laurentian Bookstore. The Laurentian Alumni Association can be reached at 673-4818.

SGA seeking to fill vacancies

SGA Open positions:

If you want to get involved and make your voice heard at this University, in the community, the province, or even all the way to Parliament Hill, the SGA/AGE has openings on their elected Board of Representatives, and would love to have you as a part of their team.

The Vice-President Issues works closely with the Canadian Federation of Students in order to stand united with over 400,000 students across this country who are all committed to making education a right, not a privilege. This position is a part-time paid position working 20 hours per week and will be decided upon in a bi-election in early October.

The SGA/AGE Senators represent the SGA/AGE membership at the University Senate level. This volunteer position liaises between the SGA/AGE Board of Directors, the University Senate and the student body as a whole. This position will be decided upon in a bi-election in early October.

There are also openings for commissioner positions in Francophone Affairs and International Students. These volunteer commissioners work with other commissioners and the Board of Directors to ensure that their constituencies are represented within the University. These positions will be decided upon in a bi-election in early October.

The SGA/AGE Board of Directors has representatives from all academic departments, residences and councils. Each volunteer representative voices the concerns of their constituents to the Board and then reports back to them.

For any information on these, and any other positions, please contact Luke Norton, SGA/AGE President at 675-1151 ext. 1062 or sgapresident@laurentian.ca.

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Laurentian University

Teaching Excellence Award 2005-2006

Eligibility

To recognize outstanding teaching performance, Laurentian University has established a Teaching Excellence Award. Full-time tenured or tenure track faculty members may be nominated for the Award if they:

- have been successful in one or several areas of teaching for the past five years; and
- have the support of several constituencies, for example, students, peers, alumni, and administrators, rather than only a single constituency.

All nominations will remain confidential.

Criteria

Although members of the Selection Committee are free to weigh different aspects of teaching and different sources of evidence, the Teaching Excellence Award is not a mere popularity contest. The following criteria will be considered:

- judged to be "outstanding", rather than merely "very good";
- comprehensive knowledge of subject;
- preparation for class;
- effective communication;
- enthusiasm for subject;
- ability to stimulate interest in the subject matter;
- encouragement of student participation;
- ability to motivate and maintain high standards;
- fairness in evaluating students;
- contribution to the acquisition of knowledge by students or to the development of their cognitive development;
- accessibility to students outside of class;
- development of new courses;
- development of innovative instructional materials;
- teaching related scholarly activities;
- having stimulated students to pursue post graduate training.

Procedures

Sponsors must obtain the nominee's written consent so as to help assemble a complete file. Nominations will be accepted from the Dean of the Faculty to which the faculty member belongs or from three (3) other people who could be faculty and/or students of any department at Laurentian University. Self nominations will not be accepted. However, given the nature of the selection, the candidate should be involved in the preparation of the dossier.

- The submission should be comprised of two parts:
 - (1) a Nomination Brief that does not exceed 10 pages ; and
 - (2) a complete dossier which includes the appropriate supporting documentation.

The Nomination Brief should establish the case for the nominee. It should outline the main reasons for the nomination. Moreover, it should refer to the supporting evidence or documentation. (See Appendix A for a description of what is to be included in this Nomination Brief.)

The complete dossier is comprised of the Nomination Brief as well as the supporting documentation. (See Appendix B for a description of what should be included as part of a full dossier.)

It is the sponsors' responsibility to provide sufficient evidence for a five year period from as many sources as possible, to demonstrate that outstanding work deserving of recognition has been done.

A teaching dossier of at least the last two years of teaching as well as an updated curriculum vitae and annual reports for the last five years must be included;

Evidence of outstanding performance includes the following: formal questionnaires for student evaluation of teaching, testimonial letters from students, alumni, fellow faculty members or administrators, endorsements from faculty and/or student councils, objective measures of student learning, course outlines, methods of evaluating students and any other relevant information. It is useful to have testimonials from a variety of clientele;

The Committee will also take into account preparation of new courses, correspondence courses and varied learning strategies, such as those making use of new technologies;

The Award will be bestowed only when evidence of outstanding performance is found;

Letters of nomination with full supporting documentation should be sent to the Office of the Vice-President, Academic no later than November 30, 2005. The dossier must be complete. Documentation will not be accepted after this date;

The committee will judge only based on the information received. The sponsors will be asked to make a five minute presentation;

The successful candidate will be honoured at the Spring Convocation;

The winner will become eligible again for the Award only after her/his sabbatical has been completed.

Selection Committee

The Selection Committee is composed of ten members, one from the Federated Universities, one from each of the four Academic Faculty Councils, of the four Student Associations as well as the Vice-President, Academic who chairs the Committee. Committee members must attend all meetings to be eligible to vote. As teaching dossiers can be presented in either English or French, all members must be able to read the documentation and understand oral presentations in both official languages. Members of the Committee cannot nominate or present a candidate. All nominations and discussions are confidential, as is the name of the winner until announced publicly.

The mandate of the Committee is also to coordinate the activities surrounding the announcement of the award and to put forward the winner's name to national and international competitions.

Award

The award will normally be in the form of a top up of the sabbatical leave stipend to a maximum of

100 % for Laurentian University Faculty. The Faculty from the Federated Universities may receive some other form of recognition.

Appendix A

Nomination Brief

The Nomination Brief presents the case for the nominee and emphasizes key items in the supporting evidence. Include the following information in a Nomination Brief that does not exceed 10 pages.

1. Candidate - Last Name, First Name, Department/School, Faculty
2. Nominator (s) Last Name, First Name, Business Address/Telephone/Fax, E-mail
3. Candidate's Education - Degrees and experience
4. Employment History - Academic and teaching-related appointments
5. Teaching Philosophy - Include the nominee's statement of teaching philosophy
6. Teaching Excellence - Provide documentation that demonstrates teaching excellence, such as:
 - Normative data from teaching evaluations over several years.
 - A list of special course development efforts
 - Letters from colleagues and students
 - A typed list of all student comments from two or more classes
 - An example of course materials
 - Describe and provide documentation that demonstrates particularly effective teaching strategies that the nominee employs
7. Educational Leadership - Provide an itemized summary, beginning with the most recent, and (optional) documentation of activities that demonstrate educational leadership, such as:

- Conducting of seminars, workshops, conferences or other events for university colleagues on teaching/learning topics
- Work with teaching/learning committees or centers
- Consultation with university colleagues on teaching methods
- Papers, texts, newsletters or other publications on university teaching
- Research on university teaching/learning problems that go beyond the normal discipline-focused research conducted by the faculty member
- Work on special projects related to university teaching and learning

Appendix B

Full dossier

1. Nomination Brief
2. Nominee's Consent
3. Curriculum vitae (full)
4. Letters of Reference
5. Student Evaluations
6. Course Outlines
7. Annual Reports (Maximum of last five years)
8. Publications (Examples of publications dealing with teaching)
9. Other Supporting Documentation (can be separate from binder) (example: books, course manuals, etc.)

TRAVEL

LU student explores the wonders of Viet Nam

BY NEIL ZACHARJEWICZ
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

What began as an effort to help an International student feel at home in Rez turned into the adventure of a lifetime for Christopher Gauthier.

Gauthier first met Son Dang when the pair were in their first year at Laurentian. Dang was an international student from Viet Nam who had arrived on campus late and had missed all of the activities for the international students. Dang was introducing himself to the other students in Rez, and Gauthier realized that if he found it difficult to adjust at first, he could only imagine how it felt being an international student.

"I couldn't imagine how difficult it was for him," Gauthier said.

So Gauthier took Dang under his wing, helped him find his way around, and the two became good friends.

Some time later, Dang's mother came to Canada to visit her son, and when she saw and heard about how Gauthier had helped her son, she was thankful. She told him that whenever he wanted to visit, he would be welcome in her home.

"I couldn't pass up an opportunity like that," Gauthier confessed.

It took a few years before his schedule would allow it, but while other students were headed off to work summer jobs after classes ended last year, Gauthier was boarding a plane to fly off and spend five weeks with Dang and his family.

"I was there for five weeks, but it was supposed to be six," he sighed. Gauthier's trip was delayed as he experienced Visa problems, and he ended up flying out a week late. Dang, who



Laurentian student Christopher Gauthier (left) spent five weeks this summer at the home of Sun Dang, an International student from Viet Nam who also studies at Laurentian. The pair are picture here in Halong Bay, a Unesco Heritage Site and one of the Seven Wonders of the World.

had not been home in nearly two years, flew on ahead while Gauthier worked out the issues, and by May 1st he finally arrived at his destination: Ho Chi Minh City (formerly known as Saigon).

The stark differences struck him immediately. Gauthier recalled walking out of the airport into what he could only term "chaos." There were people and motorcycles everywhere, moving this way and that.

"It was totally different than what you would see on television, or read in a book, or even what you would expect," Gauthier said. "And it was really hot."

He pointed out that, when he first boarded the plane, it was two degrees in Canada. When he

arrived at Ho Chi Minh City, the temperature was closer to 40 degrees.

Still, Gauthier said it was really exciting to be able to explore Viet Nam with his friend's family.

"It is a great way to travel, going around with people who live there," Gauthier indicated. "I got to see things that tourists wouldn't get to see. I think it was cool for Sun. He kind of took pleasure in making me try new foods."

He said it was a great way to experience the culture, and where if he had been a tourist he probably would have eaten at hotels, by traveling with the locals he was exposed to many of the delicacies served up by the street vendors and tucked away in the alleyways.

One of the trips Gauthier was most surprised by was their trip to an embroidery museum. He admitted that at first he was skeptical about taking the tour, but once he saw the quality and talent of the artists, he was blown away.

"I was one of the most amazing things I saw," he confessed.

fessed.

Despite the length of his stay, Gauthier was never bored.

"Pretty much daily, we were doing things," he said. "I have so many memories that stand out. One of my favourite things I did was play basketball with some of the local kids."

Gauthier even found the time to going tobogganing, though in Viet Nam they don't slide on snow. Instead, they slide down the red sand dunes.

One aspect of his trip that Gauthier found to be a unique learning experience was the fact that he was the only Caucasian person in an otherwise Vietnamese city. Being white, he said, he found he was frequently "gawked at."

"They are not used to seeing a six foot tall white guy playing basketball," Gauthier laughed. "I got a lot of looks when we visited the Buddhist temple because I was the only white guy there."

Being a foreigner, Gauthier drew a lot of attention from school children, and he would carry candy with him to appease them. He said they would tug at his sleeves and ask him who he was almost everywhere he went.

Even the street children would approach him, and they could speak pretty good English too, he noted.

"Pretty much any foreigner is begged for money," he pointed out.

He recalled one little girl who insisted he buy flowers from her. He told her he wasn't interested, but she was persistent. Finally, he became forceful, telling her he did not want her flowers. So she smacked him across the head with her bouquet. Gauthier indicated Dang later explained to him that his first mistake was in even talking to the girl in the first place. Dang told him that many of these children are owned by people who send them out to beg for money. In return, the children receive room and board.

"You don't know where your money is going," he said.

Gauthier's trip also hap-

pened to correspond with the celebrations for the 30th anniversary of the end of the Viet Nam War, and he said visiting the war museums in Viet Nam was a real eye-opener.

"It was really interesting to hear the stories from their perspective," he said. "Even now, they are still feeling the effects of the Agent Orange gases."

Babies are born with two heads, some people have sunken faces, and others have stubs where limbs should be.

"Being Canadian, that is all we know Viet Nam for," Gauthier suggested. "But there are a lot of rich, urban places as well, with shopping malls. I didn't think that would exist. I expected it to be like downtown Toronto. I guess it's just our mentality. We are kind of out of the loop."

Goods and services are generally bartered for in Viet Nam, Gauthier said, and he admitted he found it difficult. Nothing has a price tag, he said, so the shop owner would offer a price and it was up to the customer to barter them down. He said he tried to avoid bartering at all when he could, particularly since, on one occasion, one lady shared with him a "sob story" about putting her kids through school. He paid her what she asked, but Gauthier said Dang told him he could have negotiated her down some more. Instead, he overpaid.

Gauthier enjoyed his trip so much that he plans to go back in the future.

"There were so many beautiful things about it. I would go back for sure. I think it is a good experience to get out and see how other people live," he said. "I saw so many things that opened my eyes."

Even now, Gauthier said, Dang's mother thinks of more and more places that she regrets not having taken him to see.

"There are so many things I wanted to do that we didn't get to do."

But for now, Gauthier has more important things to worry about, namely another year of school.



What could be more fun than tobogganing down a red sand dune? This was just one of the unique experiences on Gauthier's trip to Viet Nam.



Gauthier proved to be a hit with the school children, who crowded around him everywhere he went during his stay.

BEACH DAY 2005

(Below) The Laurentian beach was packed with many students who turned out for the SGA/AGE Beach Day event on Monday.



(Above) Students enjoyed a number of fun activities, such as water balloon dodgeball.



(Above) The spirit of Laurentian could be felt everywhere, as Team Pink forms a human pyramid at the SGA/AGE Beach Day.



(Above) The SGA/AGE Beach Day was a fun day for all, and it would not have been possible without all the effort behind the scenes by volunteers such as LOCS Vice-President Mel Dionne.



(Above) The SGA/AGE Beach Day featured numerous activities to waste away one of the nicest days yet this summer, as these students demonstrated in the sand sculpture competition.

(Right) Team spirit was the name of the game at the SGA/AGE Beach Day last Sunday, as six teams of students brought their game face for hours of fun and laughter in the sun.



INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS' BBQ



(Above) The November All-Stars put on quite a show at the International Students' BBQ.



(Above) The International Students' BBQ provided an opportunity to meet, mix and mingle while enjoying a bite to eat.



(Left) Jump to it!!! The sack races were hysterically fun for all.

(Left) Yang Xin tries his hand at a little Frisbee Golf, one of the many fun events for the participants at the International Students' BBQ, held last week at the Robertson Cottage.

Photos by Neil Zacharjewicz

AUDITIONS FOR Crimes of the Heart

By Beth Henley.

Directed by Valerie Senyk

WHEN: Thursday & Friday,

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Saturday, Oct 22nd

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CAMPUS SERVICES & NEWS

Yellowcard: Punk quintet headline SGA/AGE Frosh Concert

(continued from front page)

release, Ocean Avenue, which the band describes as "a powderkeg of affecting, personal and explosive rock." The album sold close to 2.5 million copies worldwide.

The band is currently touring Canada, offering canucks the first opportunity to preview their new songs for their upcoming release, scheduled for January of 2006.

Yellowcard formed in 1997 but quickly made some lineup changes. Current singer Ryan Key was friends with most of the band from their high school days in Jacksonville, Florida. He and Sean Mackin, in particular, were close friends and both enrolled at Florida State University after graduating.

Key dropped out of college after only half a year, moving to Santa Cruz to follow his heart and make music. He played with a couple of punk bands in California and Florida but nothing really stuck. Yellowcard guitarist Ben Harper saw one of Key's band practices and quickly extended an invitation to him to jam with the rest of the band - as luck would have it, they had jettisoned their current singer and were looking for a replacement.

"We started playing some songs I had written and it all just clicked," Key recalled. "Sean and I had always been really tight and I had a good relationship with the rest of the guys. It just seemed to work very naturally somehow."

Yellowcard were now a complete band, and Key convinced the band that they needed to move from Florida to Southern California to have a real shot of realizing their aspirations. They would move to Ventura County and quickly find their collective voice together, playing many of the songs Key wrote on his own before joining the group. Most of these were recorded on their debut album, *One For The Kids* (Lobster Records), released in 2001, and the 2002 follow-up, *The Underdog EP* (Fueled By Ramen). Both releases received favourable reviews and genuine buzz, particularly for the group's upbeat, honest music.

Ocean Avenue, Yellowcard's debut for Capitol Records, was produced by Neal Avron and mixed by Tom-Lord-Alge. On the album, themes of self-empower-

ment and self-awareness reveal themselves throughout on tracks like "Life of a Salesman" and "Inside Out." There is a conspicuous lack of irony or sarcasm...sincerity rules. "We're definitely a positive band," says Key. "We want to take experiences in our life and use them in a productive way, to encourage people not to let anybody tell them what to do with their life."

Ocean Avenue offers a passionate brand of upbeat

"It's awesome to know we sacrificed and followed our hearts to end up where we are right now. We definitely feel lucky, but we've worked hard as hell to make that luck happen."

Ryan Key
lead singer, Yellowcard

punk — but with a twist, complementing the standard band setup with the exotic (by rock standards, anyway) inclusion of a violin as a rhythm instrument, played by Sean Mackin. It makes their songs stand out, says Key. "I write the verses and the chorus and then let the band take it from there. They come up with any new kind of rhythms or chord structures that they can to just make the songs more interesting, to make them better. It's a very equal-parts thing that comes out really strong."

Ocean Avenue's opener, "Way Away," finds Key speaking to the idea that people are ultimately the masters of their own destiny. "We're talking about really owning up to what you want to do in your life," he explains. He cites his own personal journey from dropping out of college to pursue his dream of being a songwriter, and the band's decision to leave their hometown of Jacksonville for California. "It's like, I'm not going to stay here just because you tell me I have to. A lot of those people who say that are doing the 9-to-5 and they're not happy. You have to do what you want to do."

On other songs, Yellowcard cull directly from their

lives. On "Only One," Key talks specifically about the recent breakup with his girlfriend. "I can't stand albums where every song is about some chick who broke your heart," laughs Key. This song is different, though, he says. "I made the decision to end the relationship because it was the right thing to do, even though I'm not sure exactly why, and this song is about knowing it was right but still trying to understand it."

On "Miles Apart," Yellowcard reflect on the divergence of friends' lives after seminal periods like high school. "Twentythree" is about youthful idealism giving way to maturity. And the frenzied pace of the song stands out, as do the vocals, done not by Key but by Mackin. "It's amazing how Sean can sing a song and it still sounds like Yellowcard," says Key.

By design, the end of the album feels like arriving at the end of an emotional journey. The final song is "Back Home," a counterpoint to the album's opener, "Way Away." If that opener is about the brash pursuit of personal dreams, "Back Home," is a sentimental reflection on what was left behind. "Sometimes when you've gone out to do what you want to do, you miss what you left - home, security, friends, family, safety," explains Key. "We wanted to end the record with that kind of reflection."

Indeed, it's that kind of wise-beyond-their-years sensibility that has helped Yellowcard stand out from the pack. In 2002, they joined the West Coast leg of the famed Warped Tour, a breakout stint for the band, and they soon used their newfound buzz to land spots on tours opening up for revered punks like No Use For A Name, Lagwagon and Less Than Jake. Most recently, the band once again took part in the Warped Tour, this time on the East Coast leg.

"It's awesome to know we sacrificed and followed our hearts to end up where we are right now," says Key. "We definitely feel lucky, but we've worked hard as hell to make that luck happen."

Yellowcard will take to the stage on Friday, September 9th in the Great Hall. The concert gets under way at 9 pm, and all students are reminded that they must bring their updated students' card along with their ticket in order to get into the concert.

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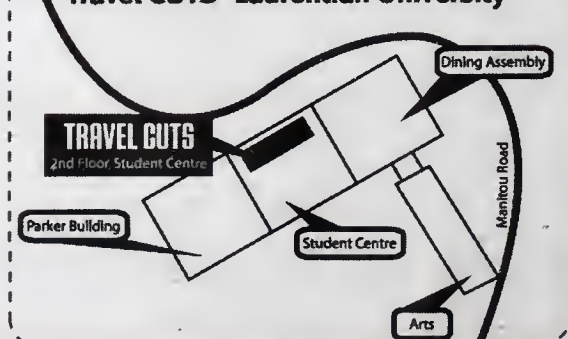
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CAMPUS LIFE

Calling Out: One woman's tale of dealing with mental illness

BY HELENE LEFKOW
CONTRIBUTED

I got off the bus and found the payphone. My Mom answered. "Can you come and get me?" I said. "I'm at the park-and-ride."

I was 19 years old. I was smart and attractive. I came from a middle-class suburban home with parents who actually had been able to stay together. I was a straight-A student at an Ivy League college. I had everything going for me, yet I was miserable.

I had come back from college in Pennsylvania unannounced. I just couldn't take it anymore. I knew something was wrong and I needed help. Walking up and down the aisles at the local drugstore looking for a good drug to OD on was definitely not healthy. I wasn't sure what I was going to do, but I knew I had to do something. I got in touch with my psychologist who I had stopped seeing months before, and she sent me to a psychiatrist who handles emergencies. He put me on Prozac and a few days later I returned to school. It was too late in the semester to get a refund of my tuition; I had to return.

I went back to school and finished out the semester. Eventually, I would wind up taking a leave of absence, withdrawing from the university altogether, later to attend a local college. The next few years would be a series of ups and downs, until finally I would hit rock bottom and wind up in a psychiatric hospital after a failed suicide attempt. All in all, I would spend eight years in a haze of mental illness.

Mental illness is a sneaky disease. It creeps up on you until it overtakes your life, until you can no longer function. I was 15 when obsessive-compulsive disorder

(which, looking back, I had symptoms of beginning in grade school) was first apparent. It began soon after school let out and it got progressively worse as summer went on until I was practically suicidal, rummaging through the family medicine cabinet, looking for something that would do the trick. My poor parents didn't know what to do with me. I finally begged them to take me to a psychologist. They did, and I went for a while until school started. But once I started feeling better, I stopped going.

I fooled myself then, as I would many more times in the coming years, that I was cured and that my depression was strictly a situational thing and not a disease to be dealt with head-on. No one ever said, "You have a disease that you need to take care of. If you don't, it will come back." I never heard it from any number of the professionals I had seen. I would only realize it on my own, after eight years of hell, as I sat in a psychiatric hospital.

I was 23 when I voluntarily checked myself into the hospital. Looking back, it was probably the best thing I ever did for myself. I could no longer function in everyday life. I couldn't keep up the facade of a happy, well-adjusted individual who was really dying on the inside. I knew that if I didn't do something drastic I would probably wind up dead – either by my hand or by getting into some kind of accident because I was so out of it all the time. While hospitalized, I finally accepted the reality of my disease, as well as how unhappy I had been over the years. I decided I no longer wanted to be a prisoner of mental illness. I didn't like how I had been living. Slowly, over the years, I grew to accept that feeling "bad" was just a part of me, almost

like it was part of my personality. I knew I had to make some big changes and strive to continue to change for the better.

I'm 31 now and my hospital stay was eight years ago. Since then, I have been able to turn my life around. In a lot of ways, I feel my life began the day I was released. I finally faced that I do have a disease that is not going to go away just because I want it to. I had to keep an ever-watchful eye on it, to make sure it didn't insidiously creep into my life. For if I didn't, it would invariably take me over again. My mental illness was not going to control me.

Now don't get me wrong, there are times, even now, when I struggle with depression and OCD. I have my bad days, even weeks.

But somehow, even when I thought, this is it, I'm not going to get better, I have. I attribute this to my own vigilance, medication, therapy and the grace of God.

In a lot of ways I was lucky. Some people spend years, or an entire lifetime, going in and out of hospitals. I've been fortunate to have had only one stay, which will hopefully be my last one. Through all of my trials and tribulations, I have had medical insurance (even if coverage wasn't on the same scale as 'medical' illness). I have been able to keep a job and make a life for myself, and for that I am fortunate.

What I can say to others struggling with their illness is never give up. Remember, you are the consumer and you have the right to

good treatment. If you're not happy with the help you're getting, find a new doctor or therapist. Believe me, there are a lot of bad ones out there (I've seen my share), and sometimes you have to weed through to find one that works for you. Know that there is a light at the end of the tunnel, no matter how dark it may seem.

"Calling Out" was first published in Open Minds Quarterly, a Sudbury-based magazine that features the writing of individuals living with mental illness. It has been republished here at the request of Laurentian's Health Services department, in conjunction with World Suicide Prevention Day, scheduled for Saturday, September 10th.

Students encouraged to participate in Yellow Ribbon campaign

The Yellow Ribbon Program is a pro-active, preventative outreach program. This program involves the distribution of yellow ribbon cards. The Yellow Ribbon Cards are pocket sized cards that empower and encourage teens to seek help in times of crisis. Cards that help give a 'voice' to youth who otherwise might be lost to suicide.

A youth gives a card to someone they trust when they are at a time of crisis or need to talk. The back of the card tells the person receiving it how to respond and what to do. They are alerted to the youth's need for intervention. The message the presentations and workshops give is a message of hope; that people care and there are places to go for help.

A Word From the Women's Centre

BY SIMONE de SATIN
LAMBDA CONTRIBUTOR

Take Back the Night is an annual event that affirms commitment to ending the violence that prevents women's personal freedom and safety. The Sudbury Sexual Assault Crisis Centre welcomes women and children from all over to unite and march to a night of survival and strength!

This year's march will take place on Thursday September 15th at the Steelworker's Hall (located at Frood and College). This year, there will be a book sign-

ing at 6:30 by the author Melissa McCormick. She is the author of "The Queen's Daughter". There will be a pre-march rally beginning at 7:00pm with McCormick as the guest speaker. The march itself commences at 8:00pm. Everyone is welcome to participate in the rally to show their support in ending violence against women. So if you would like to have your voice heard through the community; come join the march through the downtown core! All self identified women and children are welcome to march!

If you would like more information about the march call : 675-8071 or email charmaine@personainternet

Looking for 'New Blood' at LU

Canadian Blood Services will be running blood donor clinics at the Laurentian University campus again this school year, beginning on Monday, September 19 from 9:00 to 11:00 am and 12:30 to 2:30 pm in the foyer of the Desmarais Library building. As the donor population ages, it is critical that young people fill the void. Students who donate three times over the seven clinics running from September 2005 to March 2006 will have their names placed in a draw for a Combo TV/DVD unit.

"Even though you can become a blood donor at the age of 17, approximately 80 per cent of our donors are over the age of 25," reports Michelle Blais, Clinic Coordinator for Canadian Blood Services. "We need to reach out to youth so that they see the value in becoming an everyday hero in our community."

As this is the first clinic of the school year, walk-ins are welcome. However, an appointment can be booked through the toll-free number 1-888-2-DONATE (1-888-236-6283) or contact this number if you have any questions regarding donor eligibility. Recently, Canadian Blood Services made changes to its donation criteria, including reducing temporary deferral periods for tattoos, and ear and body piercing from 12 to six months.

One unit of blood can save up to three lives. This year it will take about 860,000 units of blood to treat patients. It takes about 50 donors to collect enough blood for the victim of a car accident and it takes about 100 donors to collect enough blood for a liver transplant. Few people realize that blood has a shelf life of only 42 days or that eligible donors are allowed to give blood every 56 days.

Canadian Blood Services is a national, not-for-profit charitable organization that manages the blood supply in all provinces and territories outside of Quebec and oversees the country's Unrelated Bone Marrow Donor Registry.

LAMBDA CLASSIFIEDS

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Job Opportunity So you think you can write, eh?

Then why not join the LAMBDA news team.

Currently, there are a whole slate of open positions here at LAMBDA needing to be filled. In addition to the opportunity to write a few articles, you can learn other valuable skills such as desktop publishing and editing.

This year LAMBDA is being headed up by Editor-In-Chief Neil Zacharjewicz, who brings with him eight years worth of experience in the community newspaper business that he is more than willing to share with others who have an interest in the field of journalism. Or perhaps you just fancy seeing your name in print.

Either way, LAMBDA could use your help.

Available positions include Sports Editor, Arts & Entertainment Editor, Science & Technology Editor, as well as opportunities for freelancers and photographers who just want to contribute the occasional piece.

So sharpen up that resume and drop on by.

For details in joining the LAMBDA team, drop your resume off at the LAMBDA office in Room SCE-301, in the Student Centre.

Drop off a resume on or before September 16th.

CAMPUS NEWS & OPINION

Graduate studies the beginning of an enlightening journey

To all new graduate students out there, welcome and congratulations! You are beginning an exciting and enlightening journey with graduate studies here at Laurentian! Be assured, you have chosen an institution that is renowned for exceptional teaching and learning, innovative research and unique vision!

In light of this vision, Laurentian University's graduate programs are flourishing. In the past year, several new Doctoral and Master's degree programs have been introduced in diverse and fascinating fields of research such as Biomolecular Sciences (Ph.D.), Boreal Ecology (Ph.D.), Natural Resources Engineering (Ph.D.), Mineral Deposits and Precambrian Geology (Ph.D.) as well as a graduate diploma in Science Communication. In fall 2005, over 400 full-time and part-time students will be enrolled in graduate studies at Laurentian. These are exciting and opportune times for graduate students at this institution!

As a full-time or part-time graduate student at Laurentian University, you are a member of



the Graduate Students' Association (GSA). The GSA Board of Directors represents graduate students and consists of an executive council and representatives from each department. I am very excited to be returning as President of the 2005-2006 GSA Executive Council and will be working with a very energetic and efficient team including Ryan Mailloux (Vice-President), Kelly Lippert (Social Convenor/Treasurer), and Quoc

Hao Mach (Liaison Officer/Webmaster).

One of the objectives of the GSA is to develop social functions for the benefit of members. In the past year, GSA members have participated in many events such as paintball tournaments, golf excursions, pub nights, off-campus social events, and the GSA Annual Christmas formal. As well, graduate students paddled their way to victory in the GSA "Masters of the University" dragon boat at the 2005 Dragon Boat Festival by raising almost two thousand dollars for the Sudbury Manitoulin Alzheimer Society Capital Campaign.

The GSA also supports and encourages graduate students to attend academic activities relating to their studies. Members of the GSA are eligible for a travel grant to offset costs of participating in an academic conference in their field of study that is located more than 100 km away from campus. Students can apply if they are presenting an oral or poster presentation and submission of an abstract is required in advance.

As well, the GSA works hard

to promote the interest and welfare of its members. The GSA acts as a united body on various councils and organizations such as Laurentian University's Board of Governors, Senate, Graduate Studies council, and many others.

Moreover, all members are covered by the GSA/SGA health plan. This plan covers 80% of prescription drugs and additional family members may apply to opt in. Members who already have similar coverage may apply to opt out of the prescription benefits. For more information about the health plan, please contact the SGA office by phone (673-6547) or drop in (SCE 212). In addition to the health plan, GSA members may receive athletic therapy for musculoskeletal (athletic/sporting) injuries through the Laurentian University Voyageur Athletic Clinic (contact Wendy or Shawn at ext. 1031).

In the upcoming year, the GSA would like to ensure the continued momentum of this dynamic organization. We will kick off the new academic year with a barbecue to coincide with Graduate Student Orientation Day. Following the orientation

session from 11 a.m. – 3 p.m. on Tuesday, September 6, 2005 in the Senate chambers, the GSA will host a barbecue at 5 p.m. at the arboretum (off the walking path in between the Fraser building and "the pit" parking lot). As well, the GSA office will be open every weekday from noon until 1 pm for grad students to drop in and chat with members of the GSA and other grad students over lunch. Other GSA social events will be held throughout the year and will be announced through GroupWise webmail and posted on the GSA website (www.laurentian.ca/gsa).

To make sure we are effectively providing the services and support that you, our members, need, it is important that we get input from you. Contact us by email (GSA@laurentian.ca), phone (ext. 4356), or a visit to the GSA office (SCE-211). We look forward to meeting, talking and working with you all! Best of luck in your graduate studies and have a great year!

Sarah Elsasser
GSA President

Laurentian adopts new logo

(continued from front page)

university made its best effort to try and fetch as much feedback as it could, he suggested, noting that Oracle was hired to poll one thousand respondents from throughout Ontario, one-third of whom reside in the Sudbury area. As well, 100 students were randomly polled by phone. Bechard himself made over 20 presentations to different groups on campus, and the shortlist of designs went on display at one of Laurentian President Judith Woodsworth's town hall meetings last October. In the weeks that followed the presentation of the new designs, a number of opportunities for feedback were provided at different times and places, to try to capture the widest audience possible.

Despite the simplicity of the final design, Bechard admitted, "there were some unique challenges we had."

Among them was the fact that Laurentian is one of the few universities that actually has two names, Laurentian University and Université Laurentienne, both of which needed to be incorporated into the new logo.

"It was important that we keep our colours," Bechard added.

While the bulk of the university's funds spent on marketing are intended to draw new students to Laurentian, he pointed out that the logo "is not just for recruiting."

Even though Laurentian has adopted a new logo, the stylized letter 'L' that Laurentian students have become so familiar with every year is not exactly going the way of the dodo, either.

"We are keeping the crest," Bechard pointed out, though he noted it would be tweaked "a little." For one, the shield will be incorporated back into the crest-style logo. He explained that the crest will be retained for ceremonial purposes, and when students received their degrees they will continue to bear the stylized crest that has served as the logo of Laurentian for many years now.

"We are keeping it for official purposes. We are using a two-pronged approach," Bechard said.

So don't expect to see the sign at the entrance to the university changed any time soon.

LU administration confident of reaching deal with faculty

(continued from front page)

already agreed not only to mediation, but also to the mediator in particular, which he suggested indicated a willingness to move forward with resolving the issue.

"We don't want a strike. Nobody really wants a strike, and really, that is where all the efforts are going," Bechard said. He added that the university's primary focus is on ensuring a quality education for students. He further noted that the administration and faculty teams have met on over 20 occasions since negotiations began in April.

Another good sign, Bechard suggested, is that that parties have found themselves in a similar twice before, in 1999 and again in 2002, and on both occasions an agreement was reached without ever disrupting classes.



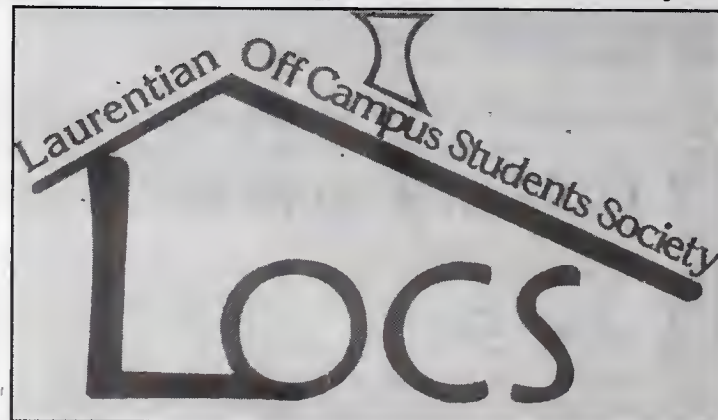
Neil Zacharjewicz / LAMBDA

The not-so-pretty side of Frosh Week saw overflowing garbage cans and recycling bins, as well as garbage scattered across the courtyard by midafternoon on Monday.

LOCS offering plenty to keep students busy

Hey all. Welcome back, and if you are new to the school, welcome. We already did the welcome back issue but I figure most of you missed it, so I am doing it again. This is just an over view of what the LOCS has planned for you this year and who the people are that are running the show. This is the list of your LOCS reps for this year Amanda Harrison, President; Melanie Dionne, Vice President; Jenna Baynham, Treasurer; Neil Zacharjewicz, Secretary; F.C. Silman, Public Relations; Jenn Fry, Social Convenor; Brandi Allingham, Social Convenor; Andrew Langlands, Sports Convenor; Scott Boucher, Sports Convenor. There you have it, the LOCS family of 2005-2006. If you have any questions, concerns or complaints please feel free to contact us via phone at 675-1151 ext 1063 or via e-mail at locs@laurentian.ca.

Now that you know who we are, here is what we are doing for you. On Oct. 18th pick-up hockey starts (10:30pm-11:30pm Countryside Sports Complex) so get your sticks ready and come



slam some of your friends into the boards. The 3 on 3 basketball tournament is on Nov. 12 at the Alphonse Raymond Gym. Got game? Prove it, show up and put up...or well you know the ending of that I am sure. January 28 & 29 is the famous LOCS Hockey tournament which will be held at the Capreol Arena. This event needs no flashy explanation, it's big, it's fun so get yourself to it. For the softer, less sporty crowd we offer to you the mellow, romantic, loving side of LOCS via a Formal on March 4th. There you have it, the world of LOCS

in a nutshell. Come on out and have fun, this stuff will be really boring if it is just the 8 of us.

And, just to ease your minds a touch, in the event that you forget when an activity is coming up - they have been printed for you in your student handbook and we will be placing posters, so watch for them. Also for the thrifty and active students, we of the LOCS offer a membership for only 8 dollars. This will get you discounts into all of our events, so have a great year and participate in the fun.

F.C Silman

SPORTS

Intramural program set for another year

BY NEIL ZACHARJEWICZ
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

The term 'dynasty' is often bandied about to reflect great sports teams who continue to perform at a high level for a prolonged period of time. But while the term might most often be associated with more competitive sports programs at the varsity level, Laurentian just happens to boast its own little dynasty in the form of its intramural program. Earlier this year, Laurentian was awarded its fourth consecutive 'Outstanding Intramural Achievement Award' from the Canadian Intramural and Recreation Association of Ontario. The award recognizes the quality and variety of the intramural/recreation activities at Laurentian that promote fun, physical activity, inclusion and cooperative participation. It also values the participation of students in some form of leadership capacity. As well, several individual students have taken home the Leadership Award for their individual efforts in the program, including Kim Nicholl, who won the award for 2005.

With the 2005/06 school year now underway, students at Laurentian have an opportunity to get in on the ground floor of what may yet become a fifth consecutive award-winning year of fun activity. In fact, several of the sports, such as outdoor soccer, beach volleyball and basketball, will be getting under way within the next week or so.

Getting involved is simple: simply gather up enough friends to field a team, then head down to room B226 in the Ben Avery

building to register.

"We have an open door policy," explained Dorothy Pitzel, intramural coordinator, who indicated a schedule for the intramural sports is available for students.

Once a team has been put together, the team captain will be asked to attend a special meeting to go over the rules and pick up a master schedule for their squad. Students seeking information about specific sports are encouraged to contact her at extension 1018, or by email at dpitzel@laurentian.ca. Intramural Assistant Melissa Walken is also available to field questions, and she can be reached at extension 1082, or by email at intrasport@laurentian.ca.

"We try to have a 24 hour turn around (for responses). The whole thing is to give students a safe environment to have fun, be recreational, maintain their health and meet their peers," Pitzel said. "We could not perform at the level we have without the students. We have outstanding, excellent students."

What makes the Laurentian intramural program so unique is that it is student run and operated.

"We are the only model like it in the country," Pitzel pointed out, but noted the university's model is spreading. She noted two students who have been involved in the program have gone on to work in the intramural field at Western and Ryerson, and it is only a matter of time before those students begin introducing the Laurentian model at those institutions.

"Our model is wandering away with our students," she

said.

Close to 2,000 students take part in intramural sports at Laurentian each year, but there are opportunities for students to get involved by doing more than just playing sports. Pitzel noted approximately 108 students actually work in the program each year, many as timers, scorers and referees. In fact, many fourth year students in the school's Sports Administration program participate for their course grade.

Part of what makes Laurentian's intramural sports program so successful is that there is, quite literally, something for everyone. From individual to team sports, sports for the elite athletes as well as though for those just looking to learn, the program takes a varied approach to meeting students' needs. Furthermore, there are prizes for just participating in the program.

The intramural program is not completely free. Pitzel noted that there is a nominal fee of approximately \$20 (depending on the sport) for team activities, or \$4 for individual sports. Yet students should not feel short changed for having to pay.

"We've had the same rates for 23 years," Pitzel pointed out.

In addition to the affordable rates, the university also boasts some of the safest sports equipment in the country. Pitzel noted that Laurentian recently asked a qualified outside organization to visit the site and conduct a risk assessment of their facilities, and the organization was surprised to find that Laurentian's facilities exceeded their expectations in a number of areas.

"It's a great way to get



Contributed

Laurentian's intramural sports program offers a wide variety of options, such as basketball. The program continues to draw rave reviews within the province.

involved. You get to meet a lot of people. It gives you something to do on the nights when you aren't in class, and you can make a lot of money which helps to pay the tuition bills," suggested Walken, a fourth year student in the Sports

Administration program.

The program also continues to adapt, and Pitzel noted they hope to have a website in place by Christmas to make access to the program even easier for students.



Contributed

Intramural water polo is a fun sport that anyone can play.

LU Men's golf team joins OUAA

BY NEIL ZACHARJEWICZ
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

The Laurentian University Men's Golf Team is going competitive this year.

The squad will officially join the Ontario University Athletics Association (OUAA) this year. While the team is not exactly new, having been formed last year, this is the first year that they will compete at the competitive level.

"They were a club team. They only competed on an exhibition basis last year," noted Peter Hellstrom, Chair of Athletics for Laurentian University. The delay in the team's ability to join the OUAA circuit was due to a requirement to provide notice of intent 18 months prior to competing in OUAA events. Hellstrom noted Laurentian served the OUAA with notice in May of 2004, which meant that this was the first year the team could compete in the circuit.

Following the same successful formula that allowed Laurentian to field a Women's Cross-Country team several years ago, the Men's Golf Team will be privately funded, through the efforts of several local business owners. Hellstrom explained that it was Paul

Schweyer, resident golf pro for the Idylwyld golf club and now coach of the team, who first put forward the idea.

"The Idylwyld has struck a good deal with us. It is a unique situation because it is so close to our campus," he said.

There are a total of eight tournaments open to the universities with golf teams, but OUAA rules only require that a team play in two of them to qualify for the championships. This helps to keep the costs down for the team, which consists of four members and an alternate.

With all of the costs factored in, Hellstrom said, it only costs approximately \$6,000 to field a golf team due to the fact that the sport is not very capital intensive. This, as well as the fact that the team is privately funded, is key, he noted, as the base budget for athletics at the university has not been increasing.

Furthermore, Hellstrom noted that with the inauguration of Women's Golf in the OUAA, Laurentian is taking a step towards putting together a team for competitive purposes in the future. He suggested a new Laurentian squad may be prepared to hit the links in two years, which should give the university just enough time to get its Men's team up and rolling.

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ORIENTATION

Orientation program helps welcome new students

BY SERGE DUPUIS
ORIENTATION LEADER

The transition for students from high school to post-secondary, from home to living alone in a new setting is undoubtedly one that is exciting as well as nerve-racking. For some, the transition will be easy. But for others, it might be difficult, and that's where Laurentian's Orientation comes in: we try many different ways to assist students in this transition in order for it to be as easy as possible.

During the summer, three students (Justin Lemieux, Dan Lemieux and myself) with the help and support of Sally Lavergne, counsellor with Student Services, helped students. The team utilized diverse approaches during the months that preceded the students arrival and when they arrived on campus in order to assist the students.

How did we reach them? Carefully. Orientation started with contacts made in the Website and ended with diverse social activities on campus.

On June 27th, Orientation 2005 launched its Website. As an initiative spearheaded by the University of Guelph in 2003, Laurentian launched the second Orientation website in the province last year, and the first and only site to be offered in both official languages. What does this site offer? Much more than information!

On top of welcoming videos, the site also offers numerous answers to FAQs (Frequently Asked Questions), resources such as LU for U, Survival 101, Tools for Success and internet links, pages for residences and off-campus students and much more.

By participating in the weekly contests, students got the chance to discover even more of what Laurentian is all about. With virtual guided tours across the campus, students got to go through the campus even before leaving their community!

But most of all, it was the chatroom that got a lot of attention. Twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week, the chatroom was open to all new students. They could pose their questions, get personalized answers, and meet other students in a relaxed atmosphere. Then they got to meet face to face at one of the many social activities in September. During the weekly chat parties, students got the chance to meet members of the administration and receive answers concerning the services and faculties of our institution. Those that came out really appreciated the support and encouragement.

Participating in a chat room was undoubtedly less intimidating than coming to an activity without knowing anyone. Once August arrived, it was time for the Send-off parties hosted by Alumni Relations. The Orientation Team took a province-wide road-trip in order to participate in the events in Barrie, Toronto, Ottawa, and Timmins. During these events, students that had participated in the chat were excited to meet us

as well as meeting other new students. Accompanied by the President in all of these cities, the send-off parties really succeeded in reaching students in their community before coming to Sudbury and reassured them that LU is the right choice.

After having chatted in July and August and after coming out to the send-off parties in their communities, most students felt more than ready and excited to come to Sudbury.

Starting September 3rd, a whole range of activities awaited new students. The Orientation schedule shows that as many as four activities were going on simultaneously and thus, open to all... and that is even without counting the activities organized by other departments!

On Saturday, September 3rd and Sunday, September 4th, more than 1,200 new students and their families participated in the Info Fair which showcased all services offered to students

and representatives from the faculties. The new students were exposed to services and got to know everything that is offered to them at Laurentian.

In collaboration with Security and Parking as well as the Human Rights Advisor, two plays that exposed new students to the risks and pleasures that the arrival to University entails were presented: FROSH in English on Sunday, September 4th and Monday, September 5th at the Fraser Auditorium and ÉLECTRAUMATIQUE in French on Tuesday, September 6th. Sometimes unforgiving and crude, the plays awakened most students to the trials of living alone for the first time.

Finally, during the first week of classes, the Team hosted the Orientation kiosk which was set up in the Bowling Alley in order to help students looking for classes or activities.

So, that was Laurentian University's Orientation for 2005. In order to check out the

Orientation Website, please visit www.orientation.laurentian.ca. The full calendar of activities

going on until September 30th are online.

Have a great year!



Neil Zacharjewicz / LAMBDA

Crowds of students and parents visited the Great Hall last weekend to take part in the annual Info Fair. A wide variety of groups were on-hand to help educate the students on the services and organizations available to them at Laurentian.

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